

Message Text

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S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

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TOSEC 490

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: CBS NEWS BROADCAST BY MARVIN KALB

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT MARVIN KALB ON THE MORNING NEWS SAID THE FOLLOWING REGARDING A STUDY OF A US DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL IN THE NEXT STAGE:

QUOTE: KISSINGER, WHEN HE RETURNS TO WASHINGTON LATER TODAY, INTENDS TO LAUNCH A MAJOR STUDY OF HOW TO GUARANTEE ANOTHER SINAI AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A FORMAL AMERICAN DEFENSE TREATY WITH ISRAEL. THIS QUESTION OF GUARANTEES BECOMES CRITICAL BECAUSE ISRAEL WANTS TO BE ASSURED THAT THE NEXT ISRAELI PULL-BACK IN THE SINAI WILL NOT RESULT IN A LOSS TO HER SECURITY AND WILL LEAD TO A BUILD-UP IN THE PROSPECTS FOR POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION. A FORMAL TREATY BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL WOULD BE CONTROVERSIAL. IT IS NOT FIRST ON UNCLASSIFIED

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ISRAEL'S LIST OF DEMANDS BUT IT MAY BE THE ONLY WAY OF

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ISRAEL'S DEMAND FOR AN EXPLICIT
EGYPTIAN PLEDGE OF NON-AGGRESSION AND EGYPT'S REFUSAL TO GET
EXPLICIT AT THIS POINT AND SADAT'S SUGGESTION THAT THE U.S.

GUARANTEE THE AGREEMENT. END QUOTE.

2. CBS FOLLOWED THIS DESPATCH WITH A BROADCAST FROM ITS
TEL AVIV CORRESPONDENT SAYING THAT THIS "REPORT FROM THE
KISSINGER PLANE" WAS "THE TOP STORY IN ISRAEL TODAY".
DEPARTMENT HAS HAD QUERIES FROM FOUR ISRAELI CORRESPONDENTS
THIS MORNING ASKING ABOUT THE REPORT, TO WHICH WE COULD
ADD NOTHING.

3. PERHAPS YOU SHOULD BRING THIS TO THE SECRETARY'S
ATTENTION BEFORE LANDING, SINCE MEMBERS OF THE ISRAELI
AND AMERICAN PRESS AT ANDREWS MAY ASK HIM ABOUT THE
REPORT. INGERSOLL

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